

Garth!

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Turner opens leadership office

Halton-Peel MP Garth Turner got involved in a media scrum shortly after the doors were opened at his federal Progressive Conservative leadership campaign headquarters located at 65 Main St. South in downtown Georgetown, Wednesday. Local media types as well as crews from Global T.V., CITY T.V. and the CBC gave the occasion a festive air. Turner's leadership campaign was described by one of his supporters as a "No frills, coffee cup campaign".

photo by Collin Gibson/HHTW

Frustrated by road conditions

By Oksana Buhel

Residents of Windsor Road and Carole Street, in Georgetown, made their collective presence felt at Tuesday night's Town of Halton Hills council meeting. Group spokesman Rod Taylor presented the trustees with a petition, signed by 67 residents who were frustrated with the town's reluctance to improve their roads.

The residents complained that no major improvements had been made on either road since 1976. Taylor mentioned it was stated in the 1983 10-year capital forecast, that both streets would be brought "up to standard" by 1988-89. This did not happen, he said.

In the 1993 10-year capital forecast, neither streets are mentioned. "We've simply disappeared from the list of projects in the capital forecast," said Taylor.

He described the roads in an unflattering light - storm drains which could not catch water, gravel shoulders which were washed away by the rain, and certain locations without sidewalks. "This is a particular problem for the elderly and for children in strollers," Taylor pointed out.

He also mentioned various streets which have been reconstructed, and demanded why

Windsor Road and Carole Street had been overlooked.

Councillor Gail Rutherford explained that the budgeting had already been completed for this year. "We can't prioritize your road," she said. "Like all other roads, yours must go through the budgetary process."

Taylor's response was greeted by laughter and applause from his supporters. "Well, if the budget is done for this year, then we'll have to be top priority for next year."

Council promised that town engineer Bob Austin would report Monday on the process involved with capital forecasts and the criteria for selecting upcoming projects.

DOWN TOWNER.



Saw my first robin in town this week...at the bank on Main Street.

Halton Hills This

WEEKEND

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Town supports environmental committee

By Dianne Cornish

The formation of an Environmental Advisory Committee received strong support from Halton Hills Town Council Tuesday.

At the same time, council suggested one of the first projects the new committee could consider is the protection of Silver Creek Valley as a Natural Heritage Area.

Councillor Gail Rutherford pushed for quick action on establishing the committee, which will serve as a commenting agency on development proposals considered by the town. Despite opposition from some councillors who were reluctant to steer the committee's immediate attention to any one particular environmental area in Halton Hills, Rutherford insisted on the importance of protecting Silver Creek Valley as a natural area.

"It was the urgency of seeing all the things planned for the valley that got me going (on getting the committee formed)," she told council. Rutherford was referring to the possibility of a trunk sewer being

laid through the valley, as well as other projects which could disturb the valley, currently classified as a provincially significant wetland.

The committee, charged with the responsibility of determining its own terms of reference with town staff support, should also determine its own priorities, some councillors argued.

"We're asking them to write their own terms of reference," Councillor Pam Johnston said. "Maybe, they should determine their own priorities." Councillor Al Cook also suggested the committee be left on its own to identify which areas of Halton Hills they want to concentrate on. "I don't think, in this, we should isolate any particular area," he added.

Councillors Norm Elliott, Rick Bonnette, Gerald Rennie and Anne Currie also suggested it wouldn't be prudent to direct the committee to concentrate on one specific environmental area. However, Councillor Rutherford continued to argue for protection of the valley. "We're asking them (the commit-

tee) to consider it," she stressed.

After almost an hour of discussion on the subject, council agreed to separate motions on the establishment of the environmental committee and council's suggestion to the committee to consider the valley's protection as a priority. Instead of council "directing" the committee to consider the designation of the valley as a natural heritage area as its first project, the motion was reworded to say council "suggests" the committee's consideration of the designation "as one of its first projects."

Council supported all parts of the motion, as amended.

Among interested onlookers in the council chamber gallery Tuesday was Ashley Ranson, a member of the Silver Creek Environmental Group. "It is encouraging that council is suggesting the committee consider, as one of its first projects, the designation of the Hungry Hollow Ravine, Silver Creek Valley, as a Natural Heritage Area and to seek comment

Continued on page 3



Kings hold court

A pair of legends got together in downtown Georgetown Wednesday. The King, Elvis (Impersonator David Usher doing a promotion for Main St. store Up, Up and Away) and the irrepressible and indomitable Wheldon (Steamer) Emmerson, the King of Georgetown. Never at a loss for words, Steamer even managed to get a laugh out of the smooth crooner. Steamer was no doubt trying to swing a deal on the guitar.

photo by Oksana Buhel/HHTW

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